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APPROVED
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COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™



**ABOVE
AND
BEYOND**

DIRECT EDITION

SPAZHARD
RAY '99

THE PLANET MOBIUS WAS ONCE A VIRTUAL PARADISE UNTIL IT WAS CONQUERED BY THE EVIL DOCTOR ROBOTNIK! HIS TECHNOLOGICAL TYRANNY WOULD HAVE CONTINUED IF NOT FOR A HEROIC GROUP OF FREEDOM FIGHTERS WHO BANDED TOGETHER AND RESTORED ORDER TO THE KINGDOM OF ACORN! THE BRAVEST AMONG THEM IS A BLUE STREAK FILLED WITH THE MOST ATTITUDE GOING AROUND - - AND, WITHOUT A DOUBT, HE IS THE FASTEST THING ALIVE! ARCHIE COMICS AND SEGA PRESENT... SONIC THE HEDGEHOG!

IN THE ROYAL THRONE
ROOM OF KING
MAXIMILLIAN ACORN...

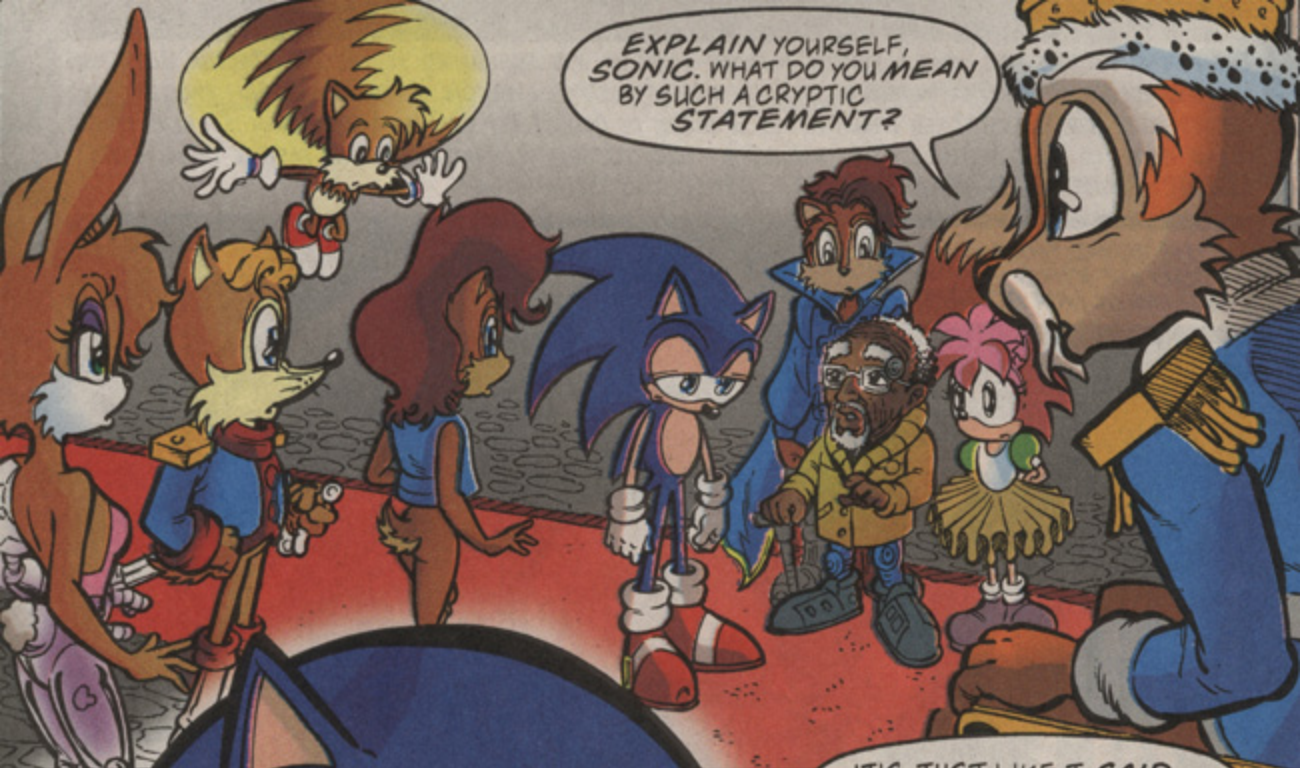
DON'T
CALL
IT A
COME
BACK!

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RICHARD
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KNOTHOLE'S
GONE.



EXPLAIN YOURSELF, SONIC. WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY SUCH A CRYPTIC STATEMENT?

IT'S JUST LIKE I SAID, YOUR HIGHNESS. MY WHOLE FAMILY... MOM, DAD, UNCLE CHUCK AND EVEN MY DOG MUTTSKI...

...HAVE DISAPPEARED FROM KNOTHOLE VILLAGE ALONG WITH THE REST OF THE ROBANS!*

Oh, SONIC!

HOW?

THERE MUST BE AN EXPLANATION!

OH MY STARS!

NO WAY!

EET EEEZ IMPOSSIBLE!

THAT'S TERRIBLE!

*Robians are ROBOTICIZED Mobians and see last issue for details:-JFG

WHERE COULD THEY HAVE GONE? A WHOLE VILLAGE CAN'T JUST UP AND VANISH ALL AT ONCE.

SOMETHING IS DEFINITELY WRONG!

SOMETHING'S DEFINITELY WRONG ALL RIGHT--IT'S THOSE CRUMMY SATELLITES. THAT'VE BEEN ORBITING MOBIUS FOR MONTHS NOW--*

--I BETCHA THEY'RE SOMEHOW RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT'S HAPPENED!

*See recent issues of SONIC--JFG

WELL, I'VE HAD ENOUGH AND I DON'T INTEND TO SIT AROUND WAITING FOR THE NEXT DISASTER TO STRIKE!

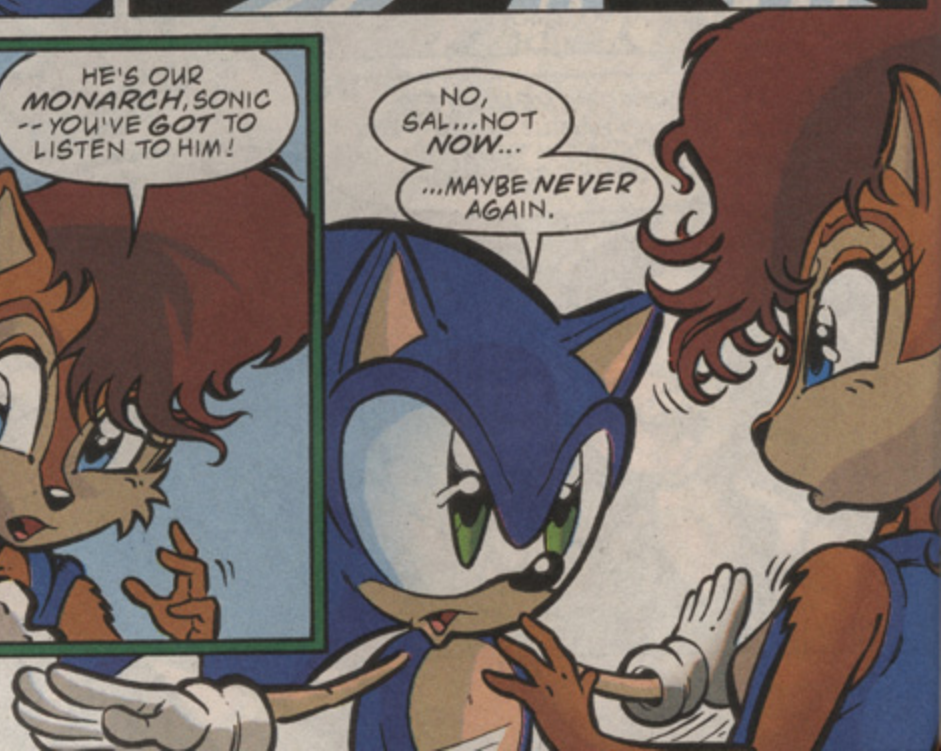
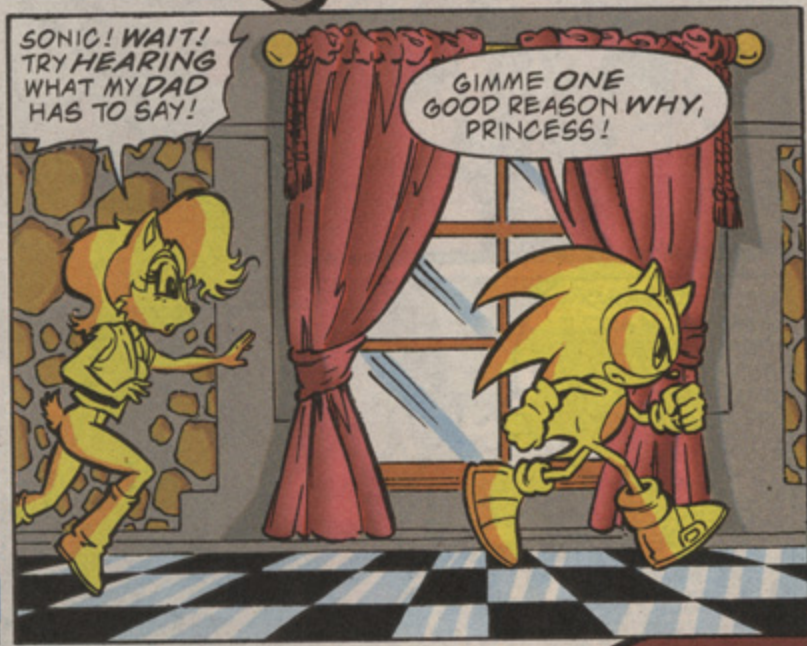
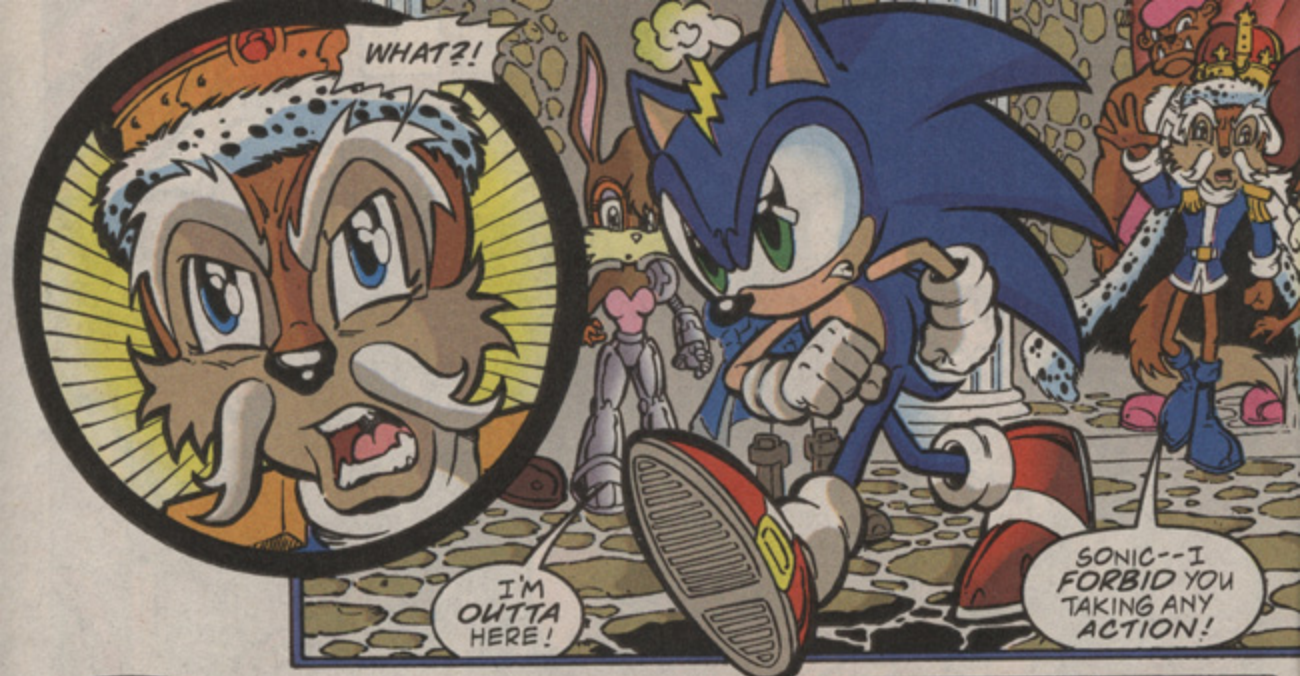
PLEASE, SONIC... YOU MUST REMAIN CALM WHILE--

CALM?! CALM?!

I'VE BEEN REUNITED WITH MY FAMILY AFTER TEN YEARS, NOW THEY'RE SUDDENLY GONE AGAIN...

...AND YOU WANT ME TO KEEP CALM? I... I'M SORRY, SIRE...

...BUT I CAN'T DO THAT.



A SHORT WHILE LATER
ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF
MOBOTROPOLIS...

WELL, SO MUCH
FOR... JUST ABOUT
EVERYTHING! I
SHOULD'VE KNOWN
THOSE "DISASTERS"
THAT WERE
OCCURRING...

...WEREN'T
NATURAL AT
ALL! NOW I'VE
GOTTA FIGURE
OUT A WAY
TO--

SONIC!

SAL--
WHY'D YOU
GUYS BOTHER
FOLLOWING
ME?

WE'RE HERE
TO HELP, SONIC,
AND--

IF YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT
TRYING TO TALK ME OUT OF
WHATEVER BONEHEAD MOVE
I'M GONNA PULL, IT WON'T--



WAITAMINNIT
--YOU'RE GONNA
HELP ME?

OF COURSE,
SILLY--WE DON'T
HAVE TO BE
FREEDOM FIGHTERS
TO BE FRIENDS!

BUT HOW'RE WE
GONNA INVESTIGATE
THOSE SATELLITES?

PERHAPS I
CAN ASSIST IN
THAT DEPART-
MENT! WHY DON'T
YOU FOLLOW
ME!

WHAT ON MOBIUS IS IT?!

IT'S CALLED A **SPACE SHUTTLE**-- IT'S DESIGNED TO TRAVEL UP INTO **ORBIT**. ROTOR AND I STUMBLED ACROSS IT BEFORE HE LEFT!

ROBOTNIK HAD OBVIOUSLY INTENDED TO EXPAND HIS **REIGN** TO THE STARS.

AH'M SHO GLAD HE DIDN'T GET THE **CHANCE**!

THE **ENERGY** LOCKED IN THESE **POWER RINGS** SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE YOU AT **LEAST** PART OF THE WAY TO THOSE SATELLITES...

...BUT I'M **AFRAID** YOU'LL HAVE TO RELY ON **FOSSIL FUELS** TO MAKE THE **BALANCE** OF THE **JOURNEY**.

NO, WE WON'T-- I'VE GOT AN IDEA!

PHWEEET!

DID SOMEONE WHISTLE MY NAME?

I DID, DULCY! I SURE COULD USE A **FAVOR** FROM MY FAVORITE **DRAGON**!

I'M ALWAYS WILLING TO LEND HAND (OR A WING) YOU, SONIC!

THEN WE'RE **SET**! LISTEN, AMY-- I WANT YOU TO STICK AROUND MOBO WITH NATE AND KEEP AN **EYE** ON THINGS!

THAT GOES FOR YOU TOO, SAL...NO REASON FOR YOUR DAD TO BE MAD--

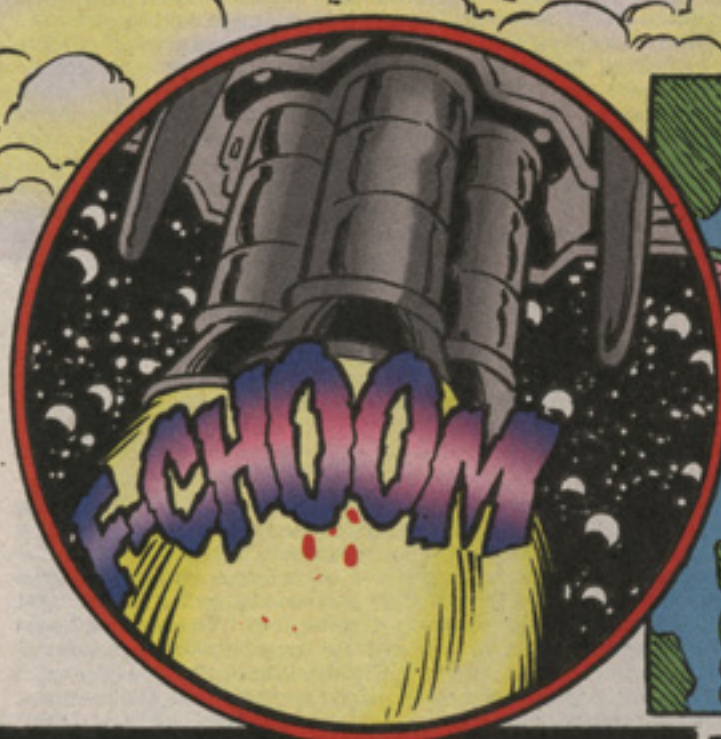
I'M GOING, SONIC, AND THAT'S MY **ROYAL DECREE**-- YOU'VE ALREADY BROKEN ON GIVEN BY FATHER, SO **DON'T** PUSH YOUR LUCK!

MINUTES
LATER...

UGHH! THIS
THING IS... SO HEAVY
...I CAN... BARELY...
LIFT IT!

BUT... I'VE
GOT TO!
EVERYONE... IS
COUNTING
ON ME!

JUST... A
LITTLE BIT...
HIGHER...
FURTHER...
AND--



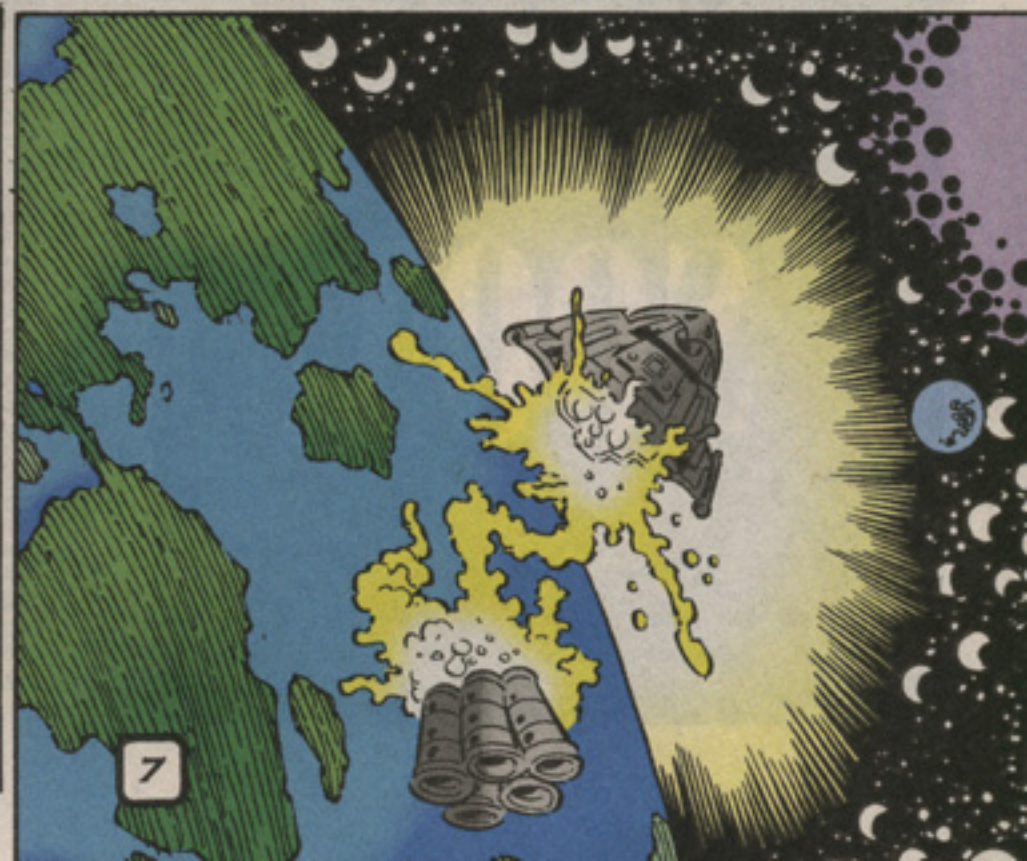
I DID IT!
I DID IT!

THERE
THEY GO!



GOOD
LUCK, FREEDOM
FIGHTERS. GOOD
LUCK...

...MY
FRIENDS!



WHAT IS IT,
SONIC?

I MEAN, WHY
WOULD HE DO THIS?
IF KING MAX FINDS
OUT, HE'S SURE
GONNA BE MIFFED
AT 'IM!

HE KNOWS
IF ANYONE
CAN STOP
THOSE SAT-
ELLITES...

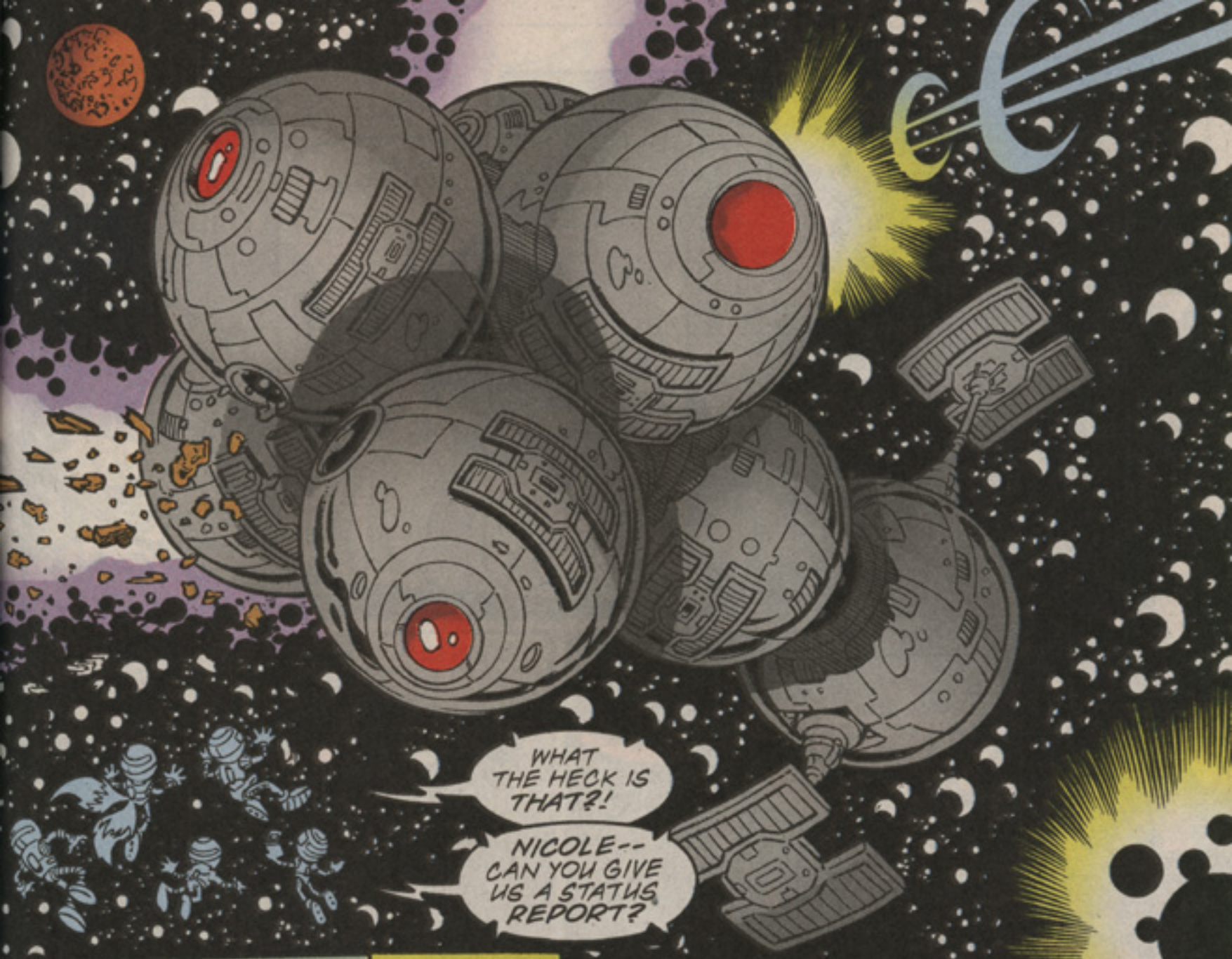
...IT'S
YOU.

BOY! I DIDN'T KNOW
THE OLD-TIMER HAD
SUCH A HIGH OPINION OF
ME! HE'S WAY PAST RIGHT,
Y'KNOW...

OH,
PIN-LEE

A red boombox with the name 'BOB'S' on the front and 'MURK' on the side. It is shown in a dynamic, slightly tilted perspective.

CRIST



WHAT
THE HECK IS
THAT?!

NICOLE--
CAN YOU GIVE
US A STATUS
REPORT?

Yes, Princess--the EIGHT
orbiting satellites have
apparently JOINED
together to form a SPACE-
PLATFORM of some type.

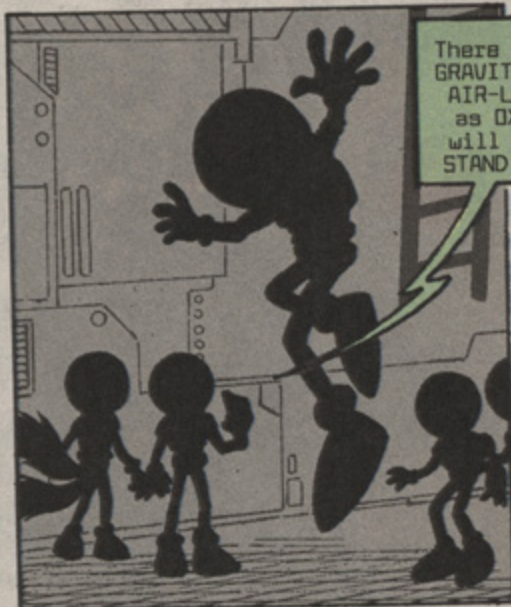
BUT WHAT'S
WITH ALL OF
THIS ÷4ech÷
TRASH?

The DEBRIS consists mainly
of CHEMICAL WASTE and METAL
DEBRIS. There will be a
thirty-second WINDOW--

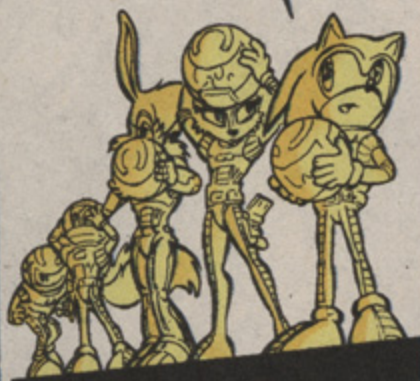
--during which you will be able
to BOARD the platform through
any of several waste disposal
CHUTES along its hull.

A second LONGER and you run the risk
of being EXPOSED to a chemical BATH
that can corrode your SPACE-SUITS.

THEN
WE'D BETTER
JUICE!



There is artificial GRAVITY within this AIR-LOCK, as well as OXYGEN, which will allow you to STAND as well as--



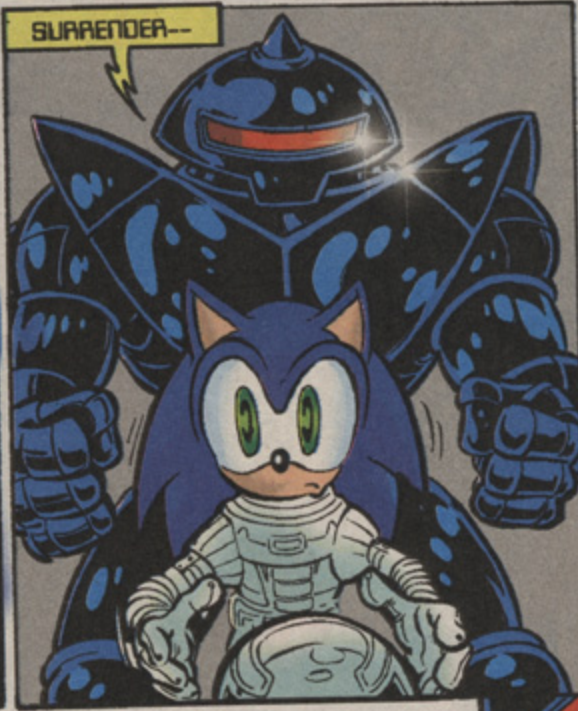
Whew--
BREATHE!



WHAT SHALL WE BE DOING NOW ZAT WE HAVE ARRIVED?



SIMPLE, ANTOINE--
WE'RE GONNA FIND
SNIVELY AND THEN HE'S
GONNA TELL ME WHAT
HAPPENED TO MY
FAMILY!



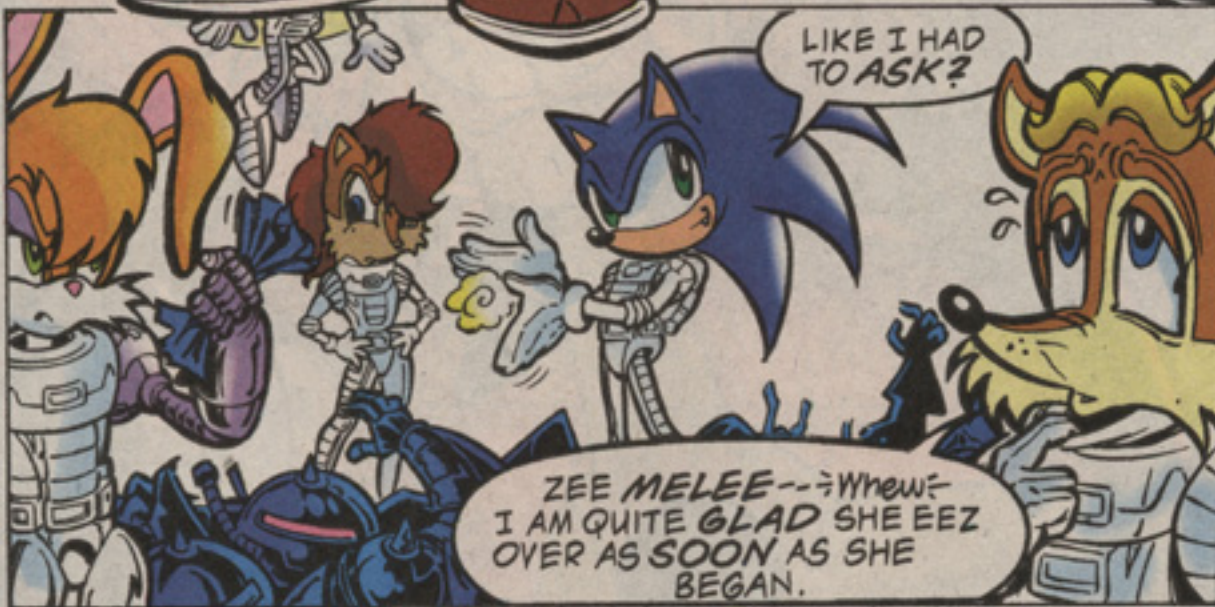
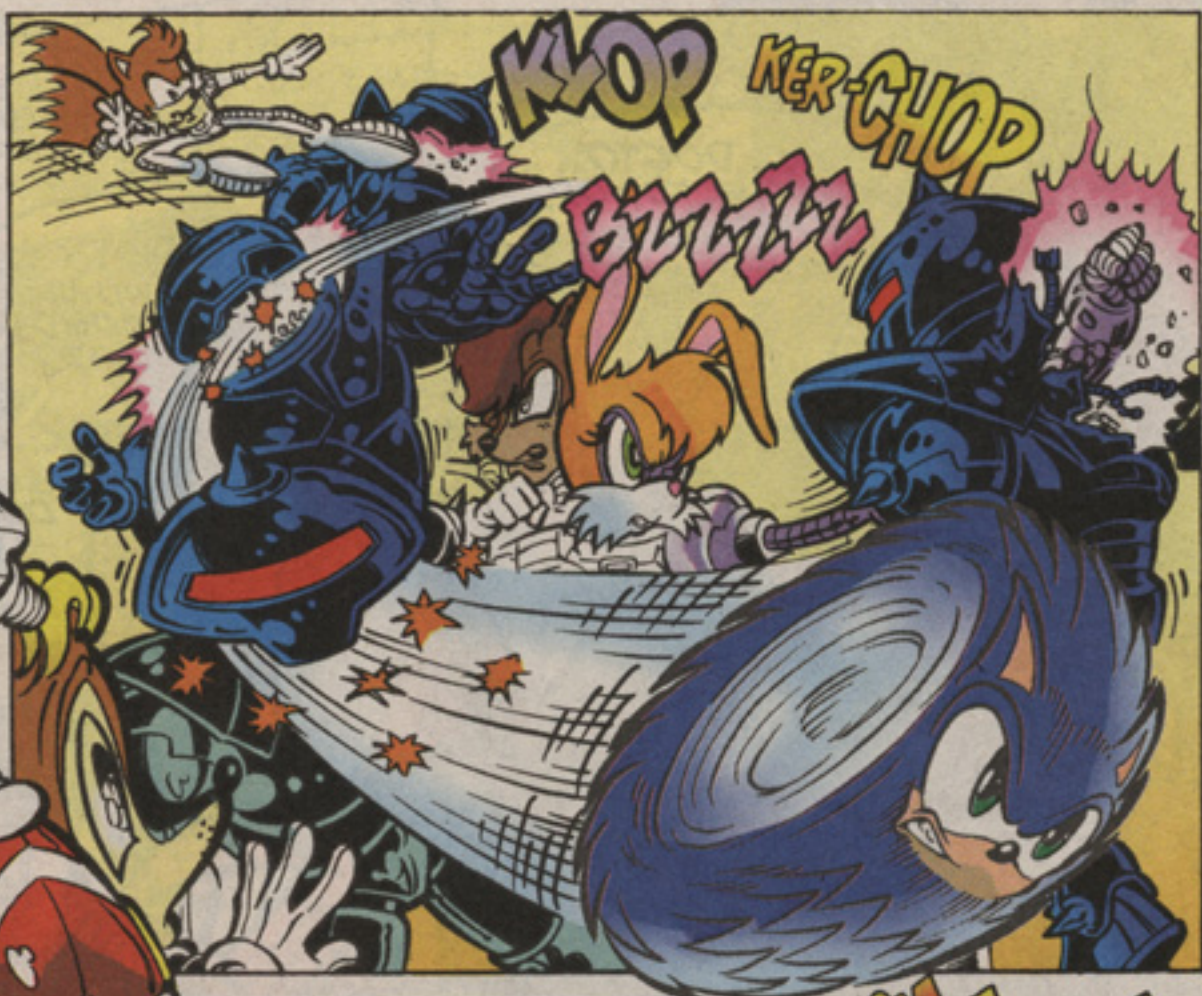
SURRENDER--



--AND-PREPARE-
FOR-COMLETE-
ROBOTIZATION.

HEADS UP,
EVERYBODY! I SMELL
SWAT-BOTS!

AND YOU
KNOW WHAT WE
DO TO SWAT-BOTS,
DON'T YOU?



LIKE I HAD
TO ASK?

ZEE MELEE--Whew!
I AM QUITE GLAD SHE EEZ
OVER AS SOON AS SHE
BEGAN.



SURRENDER--

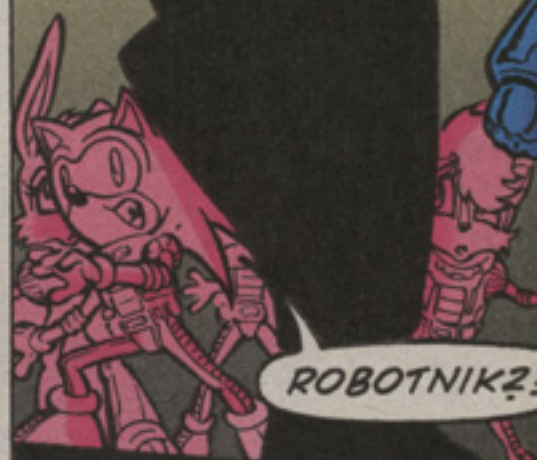
--AND-PREPARE-FOR-
COMPLETE-ROBOTIZATION.

ENOUGH--
I THINK THEY
KNOW THE
DRILL...



MORE BIGGER
SWAT-BOTS?!

...DON'T
YOU, FREEDOM
FIGHTERS?



ROBOTNIK?!

A comic book panel featuring Dr. Robotnik, a large, bald, grey-skinned character with a wide, toothy grin. He is wearing a red and yellow suit with a large yellow 'X' on his chest. He is holding a large, grey, mechanical hand. In the background, there is a cityscape with buildings. In the foreground, the heads of Shadow the Hedgehog (blue) and Rouge the Bat (red) are visible, looking up at Dr. Robotnik. Three speech bubbles are present, containing text from Dr. Robotnik.

THAT'S DOCTOR
ROBOTNIK TO YOU,
HEDGEHOG!

AND WHILE I TRULY
APOLOGIZE FOR HAVING TO
CORRECT YOU TWICE WITHIN
THE SPACE OF TEN SECONDS...
THESE AREN'T OUTDATED
SWAT-BOTS, EITHER!

THEY ARE THE
SHADOW-BOTS
DELTA AND GAMMA
--MY PERSONAL
VANGUARD!

THEY'RE **TOAST** AND SO ARE **YOU** IF YOU DON'T TELL ME WHAT'S HAPPENED TO MY FAMILY AND THE OTHER ROBOTICIZED MOBIANS, RO"**BUTT**"NIK!

COME NOW, HEDGEHOG... CAN'T YOU AT **LEAST** TAKE A MOMENT TO WELCOME ME **BACK** FROM THE DEAD? HOW **RUDE**!

DIDN'T YOUR **PARENTS** TEACH YOU BETTER **MANNERS**?

WHY, YOU **LOUSY**--!

SMACK

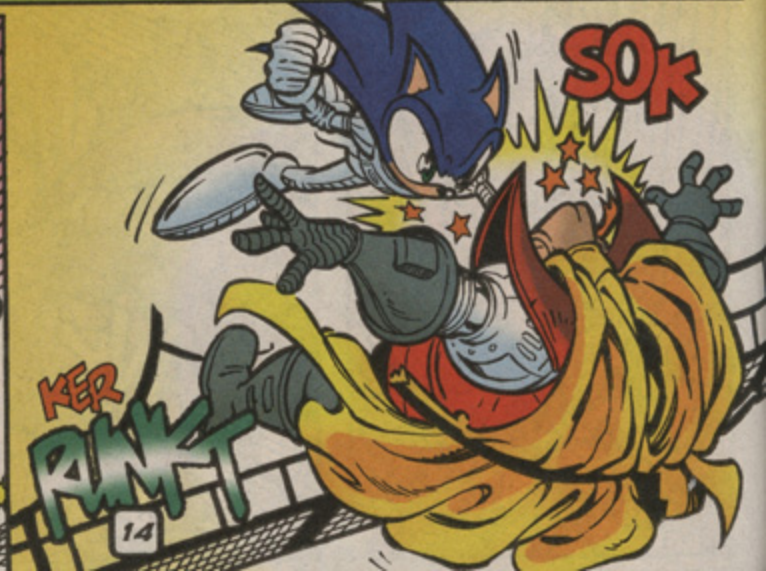
UGH!

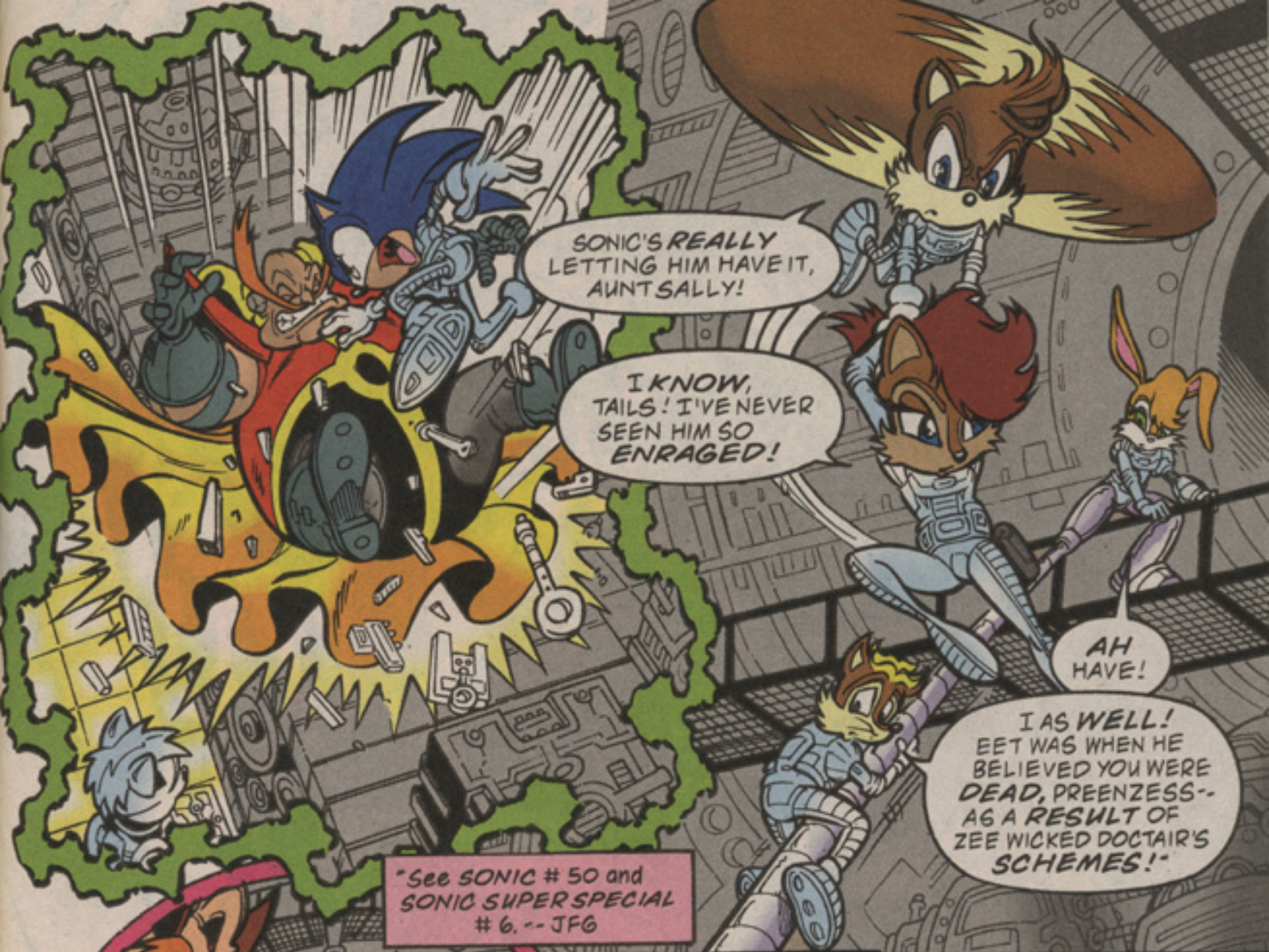
AH'LL SHO YOU **MANNERS**!

WHUT'S **HP, DOC?**

LONG TIME NO **PUNCH**!

KLANK





SONIC'S REALLY LETTING HIM HAVE IT, AUNT SALLY!

I KNOW, TAILS! I'VE NEVER SEEN HIM SO ENRAGED!

AH HAVE!

I AS WELL! EET WAS WHEN HE BELIEVED YOU WERE DEAD, PREENZESS-- AS A RESULT OF ZEE WICKED DOCTAIR'S SCHEMES!"

"See SONIC # 50 and SONIC SUPER SPECIAL # 6. -- JFG

"WE'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING-- THEY'RE ON THAT CONVEYOR BELT..."

"...AND IT'S HEADED RIGHT TOWARD THAT CORROSIVE CHEMICAL SPRAY!"

YOU WON'T ESCAPE ME THAT EASILY-- eh?

SNAG



**HOLY
SMOKES!**

I DON'T
BELIEVE IT! IT'S
NOT ROBOTNIK!
IT'S-- IT'S--

NEXT ISSUE: **SONIC #75**,
OR AS WE LIKE TO REFER TO IT--
"THE BIG ONE!"

Sabrina

THE TEENAGE WITCH

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #10 (SSQ)

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ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF
MOBOTROPOLIS...

WELL, AMY ROSE--
THERE SONIC AND THE
REST OF THE FREEDOM
FIGHTERS GO...

...AND IF ANYONE CAN
GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS
SATELLITE MYSTERY SONIC
CERTAINLY CAN!

WILL THEY
REALLY BE ABLE
TO FIND OUT WHERE
ALL OF THE
ROBIANS* IN
KNOTHOLE
VILLAGE
WENT?

Robotized citizens
of Mobius.-- JFG

I MEAN THEY JUST
UP AND DISAPPEARED,
MISTER MORGAN--
SONIC'S MOM N' DAD...
HIS DOG, MUTSKI...

...EVEN HIS
UNCLE CHUCK!
IT'S SO HARD TO
BELIEVE...

BOLLERS • ALLAN • AMASH

"...THAT TAILS AND I
WERE AT THE OLD
LIBRARY WITH HIM ONLY
YESTERDAY..."

TALES OF THE GREAT WAR

PART III

ENTER... ROBOTNIK

WRITTEN by
KEN PENDERS
ILLUSTRATED by
ART
MAWHINNEY
and
JIM AMASH
LETTERED by
JEFF POWELL
COLORED by
BARRY
GROSSMAN
EDITED by
J.F. GABRIE

OF ALL THE ACTIONS
I REGRET MOST, IT'S SAVING
ROBOTNIK FROM HIS OWN
KIND THAT HAUNTS ME ABOVE
ALL OTHERS!

--I'D STILL
SAVE HIS MISERABLE
NECK!

AND YET EVEN
IF I KNEW THEN WHAT
I KNOW NOW--

YOU
WOULD?!

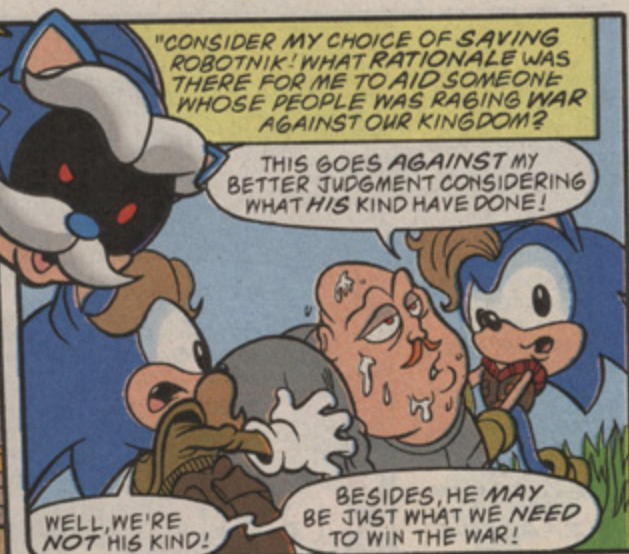
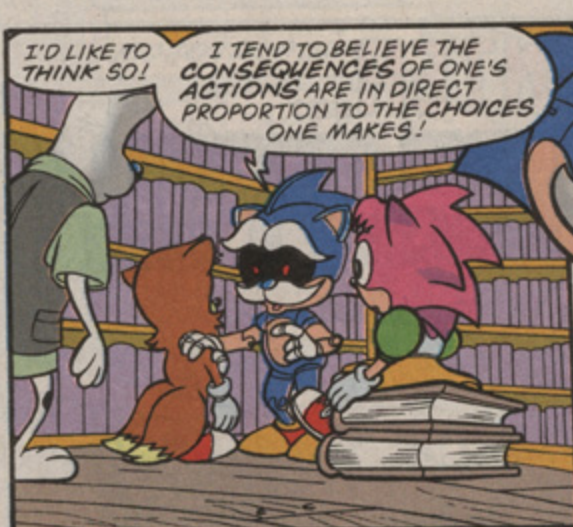
OF
COURSE!

I CONSIDER
ALL LIFE TO BE
SACRED!

JUST BECAUSE
MY ENEMIES LACK
CHARACTER--

--IS NOT EXCUSE
ENOUGH FOR ME TO STOOP
TO THEIR LEVEL!

NOT EVEN
FOR THE GREATER
GOOD, UNCLE
CHUCK?





FOR MONTH'S, WE ALL BOUGHT ROBOTNIK'S ACT, SOME MORE SO THAN OTHERS...

"THE BIGGEST SURPRISE, HOWEVER, WAS WARLORD KODOS, WHO DIDN'T TRUST ANYONE..."



COME IN, JULIAN!

I THINK IT'S TIME WE HAD A TALK ABOUT SOMETHING OTHER THAN OVERLANDER TACTICS!



WHATEVER COULD I SAY THAT WOULD INTEREST THE EARS OF THE WARLORD?

I'M A SCIENTIST, NOT A WARRIOR!



YOU'RE A SHREWD ONE, JULIAN!

I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU FOR SOME TIME NOW--



--AND I'VE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT YOU AND I COULD MAKE A FORMIDABLE TEAM!

WHAT USE HAVE YOU FOR A TEAM WHEN YOU COMMAND AN ARMY?



FOLLOW ME!

ALL WILL BE EXPLAINED VERY SHORTLY!

"THE IRONIC PART WAS KODOS BELIEVING HE WAS RECRUITING A DISCIPLE--"





YOU
CRETINOUS
IDIOT!

YOU THINK I
WOULD SERVE A
FOOL SUCH AS
YOU?



WITH YOU
ELIMINATED
THERE WOULD
BE NONE TO
STAND IN MY
WAY OF
TAKING YOUR
PLACE!

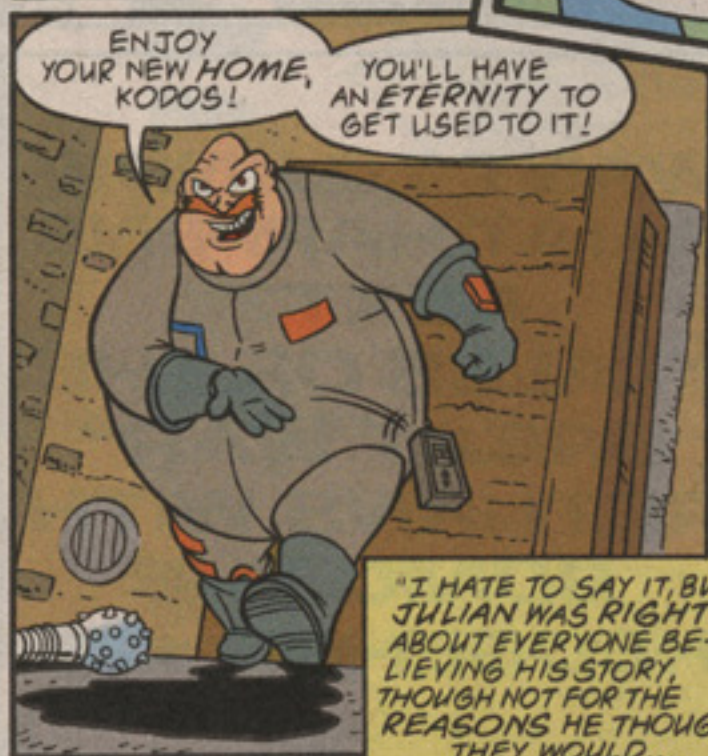
AS FOR
EXPLAINING
WHAT HAPPENED--



--I'M CERTAIN
EVERYONE WILL
FIND IT QUITE
BELIEVABLE
THAT YOU TAMPERED
WITH SOMETHING
YOU DIDN'T UNDER-
STAND!



--AND IT SIMPLY
GOT THE BETTER
OF YOU!



ENJOY
YOUR NEW HOME,
KODOS!

YOU'LL HAVE
AN ETERNITY TO
GET USED TO IT!



I SHOULD'VE KNOWN
KODOS' EXCESSES WOULD'VE
BEEN THE DEATH OF HIM!

I'VE LET
THINGS GET WAY
OUT OF HAND!

TELL ME,
JULIAN--

"I HATE TO SAY IT, BUT
JULIAN WAS RIGHT
ABOUT EVERYONE BE-
LIEVING HIS STORY,
THOUGH NOT FOR THE
REASONS HE THOUGHT
THEY WOULD..."



--WHAT'S YOUR ASSESSMENT OF THE WAR?

"WHAT CAN I SAY? IT'S OUR NATURE TO GIVE OUR FELLOW BEING THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT--"



"--EVEN IF IT MEANS GIVING THE FOX THE KEYS TO THE HENHOUSE"

WARLORD KODOS MAY HAVE BEEN OVERLY AGGRESSIVE IN FIGHTING THE WAR--

--BUT HE WAS JUSTIFIED!

THE OVERLANDERS WILL NEVER REST--



--UNTIL THEY'VE ERADICATED EVERY LIVING BEING ON THIS PLANET SAVE THEIR OWN KIND!

YOU HAVEN'T ANY CHOICE, SIRE!

YOU MUST DESTROY THEM BEFORE THEY DESTROY YOU!



WE WILL FIGHT THEN--

--UNTIL THEY ARE VANQUISHED!

TO VICTORY!



JULIAN FIGURED BOTH SIDES WOULD NEUTRALIZE THE OTHER, LEAVING HIM CLEAR SAILING IN SEIZING CONTROL!

**WANT TO KNOW
WHAT HAPPENS
NEXT?
"TALES OF THE
GREAT WAR"
RETURNS WITH
SONIC THE
HEDGEHOG #76**

SONIC-GRAMS



OFF PANEL

by Gallagher, Manak & Amash

THIS JUST IN!



Hey, Sonic fans! We should take this opportunity to congratulate Steven and Christy Butler for the birth of their baby girl, Lily Ann Butler. She was born on March 6, 1999. She weighed in at 6 pounds, 15 ounces and measured 20 inches long.

With that said, I'd like to bring a spotlight on SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #10: "Crossover Chaos," on sale in two weeks: 1) From a story that begins in Sabrina The Teenage Witch #28 (on sale now), Sonic has been mind-controlled by a powerful witch known as Enchantra. With revenge in mind, she plucks Sonic out of his world and



drops him into Sabrina's town of Westbridge to wreak unspeakable havoc. But don't fret, Princess Sally follows him through the portal to team up with Sabrina and try to reverse the harm. Or is it too late? Story by Michael Gallagher with art by Dave Manak and Dan DeCarlo. 2) Evil Sonic is on the loose again as he collects all the pieces of Giant Borg (last seen way back in SONIC #19 "Night of 1000 Hedgehogs") from different dimensional Sonics. Our Sonic heads him off at the past in an alternate zone where he teams up with the characters from SONIC UNDERGROUND (Based on the cartoon in syndication — See local listings this fall!). Story by Karl Bollers with art by Jim Valentino and Harvol!

As mentioned in a previous column, there is a new Sonic & Knuckles strip that is currently seeing print in Comic Shop News (CSN), a free weekly fanzine. For those who cannot find CSN, don't fret — we will be reprinting those stories in the pages of a future SONIC SUPER SPECIAL! More on this later!

So until next time...

J.F. GABRIE

Editor / Art Director

Catch you on the flip side!

Note: Due to the overwhelming amount of e-mail and snail mail, it is impossible for us to reply personally to each and every message. However, your opinions are important to us and each message will be read. Also, due to space limitations, some correspondence may be edited. Thanks for understanding!

Send letters to: **SONIC-GRAMS #74**
C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX #419 MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419
E-MAIL: jfreddy@archiecomics.com
WEBSITE: www.archiecomics.com
SEGA WEBSITE: www.sega.com

Sonic #69-70

Dear Sonic-Grams,

SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #69 was extremely well-colored. There's credit where it's due. But, I have a question: What do Snively and his gang want with Nate Morgan?

Devin Sewell

Arverne, NY

They wanted Nate to build them a power ring forge.

Dear Sonic-Grams,

Yo! Yeah, just wanted to say, first of all, I absolutely love your comic book series!! I just finished reading #69, and it was a BLAST!!!!!! It left me on the very edge of my seat!! 1) Is the title "Overlander" just a different name for human?

Becky

becky@ferguson.net

1) Yes, except (as you've noticed) these humans have four fingers instead of five.

Yo, Way-pass-cool-one (a.k.a. Sonic).

I really liked the artwork in #69. I have a few questions I want to ask: 1) Where are all the Overlanders coming from? I thought Robotnik & Snively were the last of their kind. 2) When will the Cosmic Interstate show up again? and 3) Don't you think Sally's long lost brother is acting strange?

P.S. Say hi to Bunny too.

See Ya!

from Andy

1) The disappearance of the Overlanders is still a mystery (as shown in SONIC #72) but those we've seen are obviously some left behind. 2) Ask Zonic the Zone Cop. 3) You think?

Dear Sonic,

I think you are the coolest! You are my favorite guy in the world (including Mobius). I have some questions to ask: 1) Where did the Sonic the Hedgehog TV show go? 2) Is Robotnik still alive? I think his hand was pictured in issue #70 on page 13! and 3) How can I become a Freedom Fighter?

From #1 of your #1 fans,

Jeff "Hedgehog" Mills

Hedgehog101@aol.com

1) Check out the new cartoon "Sonic Underground" out this Fall (check local listings). 2) Your answer is in the next issue. 3) Just by reading our book month in and month out makes you an honorary Freedom Fighter.

Hey J.F. and Co.,

I think you guys are doing a great job with the books. But I would like to see more of the fan letters page. Spaz/Harvo have been doing the best jobs I have ever seen with covers. SONIC #70 is a great example (I've never seen rain drawn that way). I do wish they'd do just one full book though, if possible.

jbenson9849@aol.

Spaz/Harvo may surprise

you sooner than you think.

Dear Editor,

I love Sonic. I just finished reading SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #70!!! I have a few questions and suggestions. Here they are: 1) How does Sonic stand the heat from the friction? 2) Are there any plans for #100? 3) When are we going to see more Lupe and the Wolfpack? We need more Knuckles and more Tales of the Freedom Fighters!!! Lastly, great coloring and penciling in issue #70, especially the cover.

Bailey Johnson (age 11)

leslielocketz@juno.com

Thanks for your letter,

Bailey. To answer your questions: 1) His body is already adapted to withstand the heat from the friction. The only thing that didn't were his shoes. That is until Uncle Chuck created special sneakers from power rings that wouldn't burn up. 2) Yes. 3) Check them out in SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #11. Pencilers Steven Butler and Patrick Spaziante, as well as colorists Frank Gagliardo and Josh D. Ray thank you for your compliment.

Well, that's it for this month. Thank you all for your comments. See you in thirty. And remember...

KEEP ON JUICIN'!

Cover by Patrick Spaziante and Harvey Mercadoocasio. Colors and separations by Josh D. Ray.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

In three weeks: In the conclusion of the story called "The First Date," Knuckles goes nuts trying to figure out where to take Julie-Su on their date. Witness this romantic comedy as brought to you by Ken Penders, Chris Allan and Andrew Pepoy. Also, Part Three of the Mighty The Armadillo solo story where the fate of Ray The Squirrel is revealed. Story by Ken Penders, with art by Manny Galán and Andrew Pepoy.



KNUCKLES THE ECHIDNA #28 on sale mid-July 1999!



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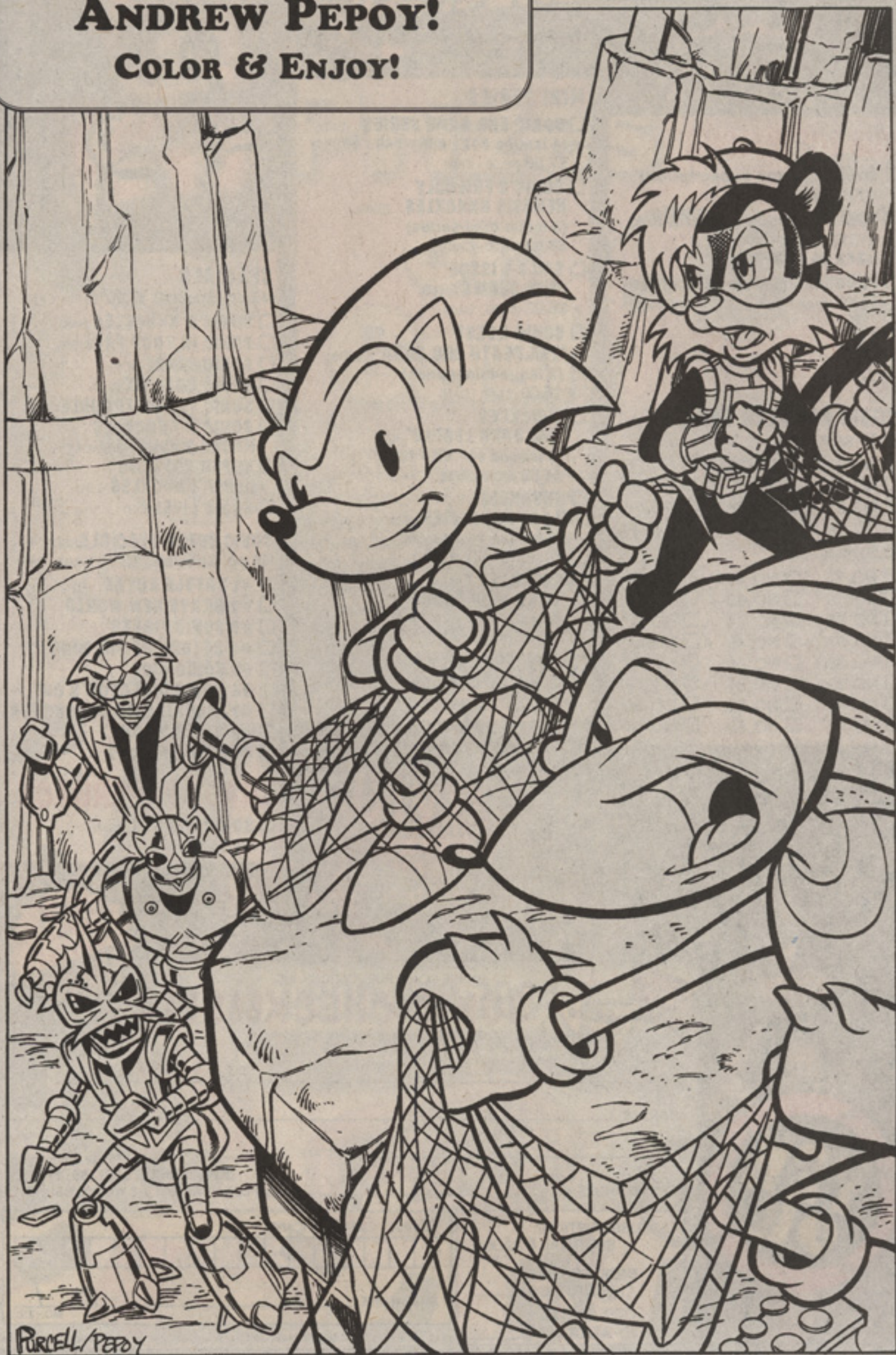
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